

# ALABAMA FIRE COLLEGE

## AND PERSONNEL STANDARDS & EDUCATION COMMISSION



### COURSE SYLLABUS

#### Rescue Technician: Swiftwater I/II

FSC 231

20 clock hours

#### PREREQUISITES

- (Pro Board or IFSAC) Certified Rescue Technician: Rope II
- (Pro Board or IFSAC) Certified Rescue Technician: Surface Water I

#### REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

- **Jones & Bartlett: Water Rescue Principles and Practice to NFPA 1006 and 1670 Surface, Swiftwater, Dive, Ice, Surf, and Flood, Second Edition**

#### **Other materials:**

- Water helmet or climbing helmet (no firefighting helmets)
- Wetsuit or dry suit
- Water boots or tennis shoes
- Water gloves
- Coast Guard approved Type V personal flotation device
- 2 forms of waterproof light (waterproof flashlight and glow stick for night drill)

#### DESCRIPTION

This course is based on NFPA 1006: *Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications*. This program is designed for individuals who will perform or direct a technical rescue by identifying hazards, using equipment, and applying advanced techniques to rescue a victim from water moving at a rate greater than 1.15 mph.

\*This is a physically demanding course which requires students to be in good physical condition.

#### STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Perform an entry rescue in the Swiftwater/flooding environment.
- Select personal protective equipment specific to the water environment.
- Demonstrate appropriate victim removal techniques.
- Identify hazards directly related to the specific rescue.
- Negotiate a designated Swiftwater course.
- Apply water survival skills.
- Anticipate hydrology and specific hazards.
- Stage a rapid intervention team that is ready for deployment.
- Construct rope systems particular to the Swiftwater rescue needs.
- Evaluate rope system components for compromised integrity.
- Manage movement of a load while using a rope system.
- Serve as an upstream or downstream safety or spotter.
- Tend a "go" rescuer.
- Assess moving water conditions, characteristics, and features in terms of hazards to the rescuer and victims.
- Evaluate and document mechanisms of entrapment.
- Perform a non-entry rescue in the swift water/flooding environment.

## CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

To be issued certification, the candidate will: provide documentation of prerequisites, complete required training hours including skills training, successfully complete the cognitive written exam, and successfully complete the practical exam.

## ACCREDITATION

Alabama Fire College and Personnel Standards Commission maintains accreditation with Pro Board and IFSAC. Each student will automatically receive national registration and certification upon successful completion of all requirements for certification.

## COURSE SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

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|----------|---|
| Day One: | Classroom lecture – Chapters 6-7, 16, Equipment familiarization, Throw bag drill, PPE familiarization, Hydrology, Water hazard identification/Safety, Communication techniques, Active and Passive search techniques, Witness interviews, Shore based rescue operations, Rope deployment, Watercraft operation in swift water, Water entry techniques, Water rescue operations, rope systems/knots/anchors appropriate for swift water rescue, Ferry angles, Swim a designated water course, Defensive swim position, Strainer drill, Eddy hopping, Shallow water crossing, Tension diagonals |
| Day Two: | Construction of MCP with boat, Management, coordination and leadership in water rescue teams, Helicopter operations, Scenarios, JPR skill testing, equipment cleaning and inventory, Survey, Certification Exam.  |

## GRADE ASSESSMENT

### WRITTEN EXAMINATION

Perform to a minimum 70% competency on the examination,  
(One retest is allowed after 30 days but within one year of course end date.)

### PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

Successfully complete a skills/project evaluation to a minimum of 70% competency and successful completion of all critical points. Evaluators will test at least 25% of the skills for each. Skill sheets to be tested will be randomly selected by AFC Certification Unit for the practical examination. (One retest is allowed after 30 days but within one year of course end date.)